

VAN COTT ANGRY OVER INVESTIGATION

Postmaster Surprised by President Roosevelt's Appointment of Commission to Probe New York Post-Office.

PROMOTION SYNDICATE HERE

Report of Bristow Full of References to Incompetence and Extravagance Follows Discovery that Van Cott Knew Little of Office Secrets.

Postmaster Cornelius Van Cott was angry to-day when informed that President Roosevelt had appointed a commission to specially investigate the New York Post-Office. He would not discuss the matter except to say that he had not been officially notified of the President's order.

The investigation was ordered just as soon as President Roosevelt had read the report of Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General Bristow on the scandals attaching to the New York office.

One of the unpleasant developments of the general inquiry into the post-office scandals in Washington was the revelation of the "promotion syndicate" in which it was discovered that the principal source of revenue was from the New York office.

Mr. Bristow, with Attorneys Holmes M. Conrad and Charles J. Bonaparte, especially appointed by the President, called Postmaster Van Cott to Washington to question him about the revelations.

Van Cott Ignorant.

They were surprised to learn that the New York Postmaster knew comparatively little of the interior workings of his office. He was also unable to satisfactorily explain how he interpreted the Civil Service laws to permit him to advance his son in position and salary over Mr. White, a civil war veteran, who has been in the service thirty years.

In Mr. Bristow's report, which has been read by the President, there are a prevalence of such terms as "wild extravagance," "incompetent direction," "senseless expenditures," and the like. One of the principal matters to be inquired into in the New York office is the rental of the various buildings for branch offices. In looking over these leases the investigators are said to have found that the amounts paid for the various branch offices are prohibitive.

They are said to have investigated further and to have found that the stores alongside many of the branch offices are renting for one-half and one-quarter what the Government is paying for the branch post-offices.

Expenditures for lighting and heating in the main office and in the branches will also attract the attention of the investigators. These are said to have been excessive for many years.

After Promotion Syndicate. Probably the longest time will be devoted to the salary rolls, with the expectation of discovering all promotions and advances in salary which were purchased by the employees through the notorious "promotion syndicate." It has already been found, according to Mr. Bristow's preliminary report, that Mr. Van Cott endorsed over three thousand promotions, and that among these have been found many that were said to have been purchased. Of course, Mr. Van Cott may not have known that the promotions were purchased and that officials under him were in the "syndicate" were using him as an innocent party to further their ends. However, the Department blames him for not being cognizant of these things.

In Washington it is not denied that if certain statements now before the Post-Office Department are correct, wholesale changes in the personnel of the New York office will follow.

President Roosevelt has already appointed the members of the Special Investigation Committee, although the names have not yet been announced. Mr. Bristow will have charge of it, and it is said he will be assisted by Attorneys Conrad and Bonaparte. There are two other members of the committee. The committee is to start work at once, probably this week.

THIEF ATTRACTED BY JEWELS' RAYS

Smashes Fifth Avenue Show Window with a Stone and Succeeds in Making His Escape from Policeman.

A well-dressed man about thirty years of age made a bold attempt to rob the show window of the Danour Jewelry Company, at No. 228 Fifth avenue, last night. He smashed a side light of glass with a stone, pushed his hand through the aperture and, quickly withdrawing it, ran over to Fourth avenue and then to Madison Square Garden, where he disappeared. Several policemen pursued the man, but none were able to overtake him.

William Burns, of the Holmes Patrol, saw the man looking into the window. He wore a dark suit and overcoat, a derby hat and carried a cane. Under his left arm he had a bundle wrapped in a newspaper.

Burns says he saw the man walk around to the side of the window and thought he wanted to get a better view of some articles. Burns did not pay much attention to him until he heard a crash. Looking, he saw the man thrust his hand through a hole in the window and then withdraw it quickly. He rushed for assistance, and Policemen Donnelly, of the West Eleventh street station, and several others policeman ran to the spot.

Burns pointed to the man, who was running east on Twenty-seventh street, policemen followed, but the man made a good start and got away. Donnelly says he has seen him at the case, but does not know his name.

CLERKS CHARGED WITH EXTORTION

Two Chicago Employees of International Mercantile Agency Sent Here to Be Trapped by Detectives.

KNOW COMPANY'S SECRETS.

James D. Stinson and Hugh B. Gilroy Accused of Demanding Several Thousand Dollars for Valuable Papers.

When Hugh B. Gilroy and Joseph Stinson were arraigned in the Centre Street Court on charges of extortion, Gilroy announced that he had not been treated fairly and that he was ready to

make a complete confession which would lay bare a monumental conspiracy which has worked successfully for several years in selling secret information concerning business firms.

Their cases were immediately continued until tomorrow, both of them being held without bail, and while Stinson was led to the Tombs, Gilroy was taken to the office of Assistant District-Attorney Paul Krotel to make his confession.

The two prisoners were employed in the Chicago office of the International Mercantile Agency, of No. 346 Broadway, this city, and it was on the complaint of their employers that they were arrested.

The two men were arrested yesterday on a warrant sworn out by Charles A. Henderson, assistant manager of the company, who said the men had threatened to dispose of papers to rival companies, revealing secrets of the company, unless they were paid a sum of money.

Mr. Henderson says Stinson first requested \$24,000 for these papers. At that time he was working in the Chicago office and Henderson asked that he come to New York, where the negotiations could be completed. Gilroy came with Stinson and registered at the Gilroy House.

According to the complainant Stinson

shaved the \$24,000 gradually. His demand dropped from \$24,000 to \$10,000, then to \$5,000 and then to \$3,000.

A plot was laid for Stinson yesterday, and he fell into it without a break. Upon the invitation of Henderson, Stinson called at the office of the International Mercantile Company to receive the money he demanded for the delivery of the data which he had secreted. A stenographer was concealed in the room where the interview took place, as well as two detectives from the Central Office.

Every word that Stinson said was taken down by the stenographers. When it came to the money part Stinson was handed a roll of marked bills which amounted to \$500. No sooner had he counted the money and put it in his pocket than the detectives disclosed themselves and took their man in charge. Stinson was then arrested.

Gilroy did not accompany his accomplice to the office of the Mercantile Company. He remained at the Gilroy House, at which place he was stopping. Last night he was found there and his arrest followed. Later he confessed to the detectives.

Stinson formerly was employed in the Census Bureau in Washington. When William H. Merriam resigned as director of the Bureau to become Vice-President of the International Mercantile Company, Stinson resigned also, and through the influence of Gov. Stone, of Pennsylvania, obtained a place in Mr. Merriam's company in Chicago.

Stinson is said to belong to an excellent family in York, Pa.

Simpson Crawford Co.

SIXTH AVE. 19TH TO 20TH STREETS

Nottingham Lace Curtains.

Some Exceptional Values.

WITH almost the entire upholstery store, in addition to the cross aisle on the fourth floor, given over to the selling, we have scarcely been able to accommodate curtain buyers this week.

A sale of 4,500 pairs will conclude this week.

85c., \$1.25, \$1.75, \$2.25, \$2.75 and \$3.25 Pair.

Worth At Least Double the Price.

They are new, fresh and perfect—and comprise the very latest effects in Scotch, Saxony, Nottingham and Guipure weaves; made from the finest Egyptian yarn and finished with patent overlock edges. Rare value—every pair.

FOURTH FLOOR.

MORE UNDERPRICE FURNITURE WORTH TALKING ABOUT.

THE last of the tardy arrivals that should have been here for August selling. And the only reason why you are asked to pay us practically a third less than the actual worth.

BRASS BEDSTEADS, \$27.50.

2 inch posts; 3 1/2 inch fillings; extra heavy mounts and vases; construction the very best; highest quality French lacquer; all sizes reduced from \$35.00.

DRESSERS, \$20.00.

In mahogany and selected quartered oak; piano polish; new shaped fronts with heavy claw feet; dust-proof drawers; highest quality brass trimmings; fitted with French bevel plate mirror; pattern shaped; reduced from \$32.00.

MORRIS CHAIRS, \$8.50.

Golden oak and mahogany finish, highly polished, extra broad arms; can be adjusted to four different positions; had filled cushions; etched edge; will retain their shape; reduced from \$12.00.

EXTENSION TABLES, \$12.50.

6 ft. long, selected quartered oak, round top, highly polished, perfect fitting slides; best construction; reduced from \$18.00.

SIDEBOARDS, \$32.00.

In highly polished quartered oak, 48 inches long; French bevel plate mirror; 13 1/2 inch high; with uprights and top; top drawers shaped; very latest design; reduced from \$42.00.

CHINA GLASS

Thousands of Pieces—all Exceptional Values—are Massed for Selling To-morrow.

Cut Glass.

Six inch Handled Nappies, lead deep cuttings of new design; value \$3.00, at.....\$1.55

Six inch Handled Nappies, heavy rich cuttings; value \$5.00, at.....\$2.95

Water Bottles, new patterns, deep cuttings; value \$4.00, at.....\$2.50

Oil Bottles, new patterns; value \$2.00, at.....\$1.25

Wine Decanters, value \$1.00, at.....\$1.95

Candlesticks, value \$2.50, at.....\$1.50

Automatic Lift Ball-Bearing Sewing Machines, \$17.95

For To-morrow Only.

They are worth \$50.00, if you measure value by the agent's price. But they have been sold some stores as low as \$25.00.

Ball-bearing in all running parts. Automatic drophead and lift. Every modern mechanism.

Built of polished oak, with five drawers, and are an improvement over the newest Singer model. Made by one of the best manufacturers; his name stamped on every machine. Guaranteed 5 years.

Hand Painted China.

25 dozen Cake Plates in rich green and red, decorated with gold and hand painted; value \$1.00, at.....\$1.00

25 dozen Salad Bowls, same design; value \$1.00, at.....\$1.00

20 dozen Fancy Plates, hand painted decorations; value 35c., at.....35c.

25 dozen Fancy Plates with Vienna decorations; value 60c., at.....39c.

20 dozen Large size fancy decorated Plates; value \$1.25, at.....75c.

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FOURTH FLOOR.

Model Foods, The Best Your Money and Our Money Can Buy.

TO-MORROW, every day, our groceries command supremacy. If for no other reason than the wholesome surroundings in which they are sold they're worthy attention. But they're more to their credit—for we demand a betterness that lifts them above the commonplace.

LARD—Kettle rendered, snow white in 6-lb. pail, per lb.....\$1.15

FLOUR—Simpson Crawford Co's Best Family Flour, 100 lb. barrel, per barrel.....\$7.00

TEA—Formosa Colonel, English Breakfast, 5 lb. tin, per tin.....\$1.00

COFFEE—Reliable Blend, fresh roasted, 5 lb. tin, per tin.....\$1.00

CRACKERS—National Biscuit Co's, 24 packages, value \$1.00, at.....\$1.00

DATE—Choice quality New Brand, 10 lb. tin, per tin.....\$1.00

RAISINS—Choice quality New Brand, 10 lb. tin, per tin.....\$1.00

BAKED BEANS—Boston Baked, 10 lb. tin, per tin.....\$1.00

MACEREL—Fancy Shore Mackerel, new catch, large white fish, 10-lb. pail, heads and tails removed, value \$1.00, at.....\$1.00

HERB—Imported Holland, 10 lb. tin, per tin.....\$1.00

PEAS—Cameron new Early June, 10 lb. tin, per tin.....\$1.00

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An Interesting Demonstration Showing the Economy and Safety of Cooking Foods in Aluminum Utensils Is Going On in the Basement. No Progressive Housewife Should Miss Witnessing It.

Blankets

Cold weather finds us ready with Blankets—heaps of them—high-piled, low-priced. You may choose from the stock here with the certainty that no other store matches our values.

It seems superfluous to tell you that we are big buyers from the manufacturers. The largest retail store in the world assuredly enjoys all the advantages of the most economical method of collecting merchandise. Repetitions of such claims smack too strongly of a dodge, and imply too scant a courtesy to your intelligence. Hence we do not indulge in them continuously.

Berkshire Wool Blankets, medium weight, full size, blue and red borders, \$1.89.

Blankets—extra closely woven white carded wool, striped borders, bound with silk, full size, said by the mill men to have slight imperfections.

\$3.00 quality at \$2.19

\$4.00 quality at \$2.98

\$6.00 quality at \$4.49

All-wool Scarlet Blankets, soft-finished, fast-dyed, bound with silk, full size, \$5.53.

Lamb's Wool California Blankets, bound with heavy silk, shaded pink and blue borders, \$8.12.

Finer qualities correspondingly low.

Comfortables

Comfortables, full-size, one side covered with figured silkline, other with plain, light medium and dark grounds, filled with clean carded white cotton, \$1.34.

\$1.99—Heavy Comfortables, full size, both sides covered with figured sateen, corded edges, filled with selected white deodorized cotton.

\$2.78—Heavy Comfortables, full size, covered with French sateen, large floral figures, filled with layers of sanitary sheet cotton.

Finer qualities correspondingly low.

Women's Shaped Ribbed Cotton Vests.

high neck, long and short sleeves, neck and front finished with crocheting; Pants to match, knee and ankle length, 46c.

Women's White and Natural Shaped Merino Vests, neck and front trimmed with hand-crocheting; high neck, long and short sleeves; Pants to match, finished with French bands.

Women's Swiss Ribbed Merino Vests, high neck, long sleeves, \$1.19; short sleeves.....\$1.98

Women's Swiss Silk and Wool Ribbed Vests, high neck, long sleeves, \$1.44; short sleeves.....\$1.34

Women's Swiss All-wool Vests, long sleeves, \$1.79; short sleeves.....\$1.59

Women's Swiss Spun Silk Vests, high neck, long sleeves, \$2.29; short sleeves.....\$1.98

Women's Swiss Spun Silk Vests, heavy quality; long sleeves, \$2.59; short sleeves.....\$2.29

Finer qualities correspondingly low.

Tea Gowns, made of cashmere, trimmed with several rows of narrow black velvet ribbon, lined throughout, \$4.34.

Tea Gowns, made of cashmere, yoke trimmed with shirred satin ribbon, stole front, full sleeves, lined throughout.....\$5.17

Tea Gowns, made of all-wool cashmere, several styles, trimmed with lace and velvet ribbon, bishop sleeves.....\$8.67

Tea Gowns, made of all-wool cashmere, trimmed with satin ribbon, hemstitching and tucks, extra full bishop sleeves.....\$10.67

Other Tea Gowns, copies of our own personally selected European models, made of China silk, Louisiana silk, Albatross and matelasse—\$12.67 to \$79.89.

Dressing Sacques, made of white China silk, colored yoke, trimmed with silk braid, kimono sleeves, \$7.96.

The higher grades are made of crepe de Chine, China silk, albatross and cashmere—\$13.74 to \$20.67. 2d fl.

Women's Hose

and toes, 24c.

Women's Ingrain Lisle Thread Hose, Richelieu and Rembrandt ribbed, also with unbleached and split feet.....29c

Women's Plain Black Lisle Thread Hose, double soles, heels and toes.....29c

Women's Black Cotton and Lisle Thread Hose, hand-embroidered in steps on plain grounds, also with side clocking, in assorted patterns.....44c

Finer qualities correspondingly low.

Women's Wool Hose, plain black and Oxford, spliced heels

and toes, 24c.

Women's Plain Black Lisle Thread Hose, double soles, heels and toes.....29c

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R. H. Macy & Co.'s Attractions Are Their Low Prices.

Furs

Neck pieces—Ermine, Chinchilla, Mink, Russian Squirrel, Mole-skin, Black Lynx, Black Fox, Persian Lamb—\$13.96 to \$269.74.

Muffs to match; price relatively low.

In Coats—Broadtails, Persian Lamb, Squirrel Heads, Monkey—\$98.74 to \$396.74.

\$98.74—Double-breasted Persian Lamb Coat, 22 inches long, Leipzig dyed, wide revers, high storm collar, pouch sleeves, deep turn-back cuffs, lined with satin damask, sizes 32 to 44.

\$119.74—Single-breasted Persian Lamb Coat, 22 inches long, Leipzig dyed, full length revers, faced with blended Baum Marten, high storm collar, lined with rich figured satin.

\$196.74—Single-breasted Persian Lamb Box Coats, 28 inches long, new model, very nobby, lined with handsome figured satin.

Small Fur Neckwear—Cravats, Scarfs and Four-in-hands—Chinchilla, Mink, Ermine, Mole-skin, Persian Lamb, Russian Squirrel—\$4.96 to \$61.74.

\$12.74—Sable Raccoon Scarf, finished with six full tails.

\$16.74—Sable Raccoon Double Scarf, full brush, cord and tails.

\$19.74—Natural Gray Squirrel Flat Collar, stole ends, finished with silk cord and tassels.

\$19.96—Alaska Sable (skunk) Scarf, finished with four tails and cord passementerie ornaments.

\$20.96—Mink Flat Collarettes, stole shape, finished with six tails.